

REMARKS

Claims 1, 10, 14–18, and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,612,299 to Krall. Claims 12, 13 and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yilmaz et al, U.S. Patent 5,715,156.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's time on July 16, 2004 to discuss the pending claims by phone in view of the prior art to Yilmaz, et al U.S. Patent 5,715,156. As discussed with the Examiner, independent Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the common single connector is integral to the housing including the circuitry and is adapted to separately couple to a DC input cord and an AC input cord. Some of the dependent Claims have been amended for clarity. Yilmaz, et al fails to teach or suggest a common single connector that is integral to the housing including the converter circuitry, but rather, teaches a connector 21 remote from the housing holding the circuitry and connected to the housing by two separate cords, an AC input cord and a DC input cord. Moreover, the discussion of connector 21 in Yilmaz is very confusing, particularly, the short discussion of this connector 21 indicates connector 21 may be used “to power an AC/DC power connector directly insertable into a battery powered tool, the alternate AC/DC power connector 21 is connectable to either AC cord plug 11 or DC cord plug 12” (see specification Column 2 lines 32-35). Applicant submits that this disclosure discusses providing AC/DC power to a device, in contrast to receiving AC and DC power from a power source, as claimed. For all these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits independent Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record.

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition of allowance and a notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any other matters which remain, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned Attorney to resolve these matters by Examiner's amendment where possible.

Respectfully Submitted,



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